

RICHTER PARK AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
RICHTER HOUSE
TUESDAY, May 19, 2015, 6:30 PM

In compliance with Connecticut General Statute § 1-225, these minutes are being provided for informational purposes and are subject to approval of the Richter Park Authority Board of Directors at its next regular meeting.

Chairman Bob Eberhard opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Members present: Leroy Diggs, Jean DaSilva, John Priola, Bob Eberhard, George Radachowsky, Bill Totten, Al Mead, Don LoRusso.

Alternate Felix Bonacci.

Absent: Wendy Grispin, Frank Russo

Mr. Bonacci sat in for Ms. Grispin.

Also present: Rob Dorsch, Grounds and Greens Superintendent, Karen Madaus, Business Manager, Brian Gehan, Head Golf Professional/Outside Operations Manager.

Musicals at Richter representative was allowed to report early as were consultants for Grounds and Greens. (See proper sections of the minutes)

Mr. Totten made a motion to proceed with public comments before any other business. AYES: Totten, Radachowsky, Diggs, Mead, LoRusso, Bonacci. NAYS: Priola, DaSilva. **Motion carried.**

- **Public participation**

Bob Sweeney-180 Great Plain Rd., Danbury spoke about the condition of the golf course and its impact on many persons who depend on a successful season.

Judy Griemsman-17 Ironwood Drive, Danbury spoke of Richter's reputation suffering a downgrade and about progress in the future.

Jim Blansfield-2 Highland Drive, Danbury spoke of the responsibility of the Authority to make things happen.

Gary Lehman-27 Crow's Nest Lane, Unit 4B, Danbury asked about what is being done to correct the situation and long term contracts.

Mr. Priola made a motion to allow the auditor to report. **Motion passed unanimously.** (See New Business)

- **Approve minutes of previous meeting**

Mr. Mead made a motion to accept the minutes of April 21. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Correspondence**

none

Arts association report

No report

Musicals at Richter

Plans for the opening of the season in June are progressing

Richter house

The house committee met with Jane Didona for the purpose of obtaining sketches for a walkway and railings which are needed to obtain funding for the house.

FORe

The annual meeting was held on May 13. Board was expanded from nine to eleven.

Business Manager's Report

Plans for the Danbury Amateur are in the works.

Head Golf Professional/Operations Report

Reduced pre-season rates are in effect until the course condition improves.

Grounds and Greens

a. consultants

Mike Maffei, superintendent at a nearby course spoke about conditions. It was the worst winter he has ever experienced. Patience is needed.

Jeff Houdd a turf consultant affirmed the previous speaker. A bent grass nursery could be helpful.

Mr. Dorsch spoke of his efforts to restore the greens. He is confident that we are on the right path to recovery

Financial report

Discussions with Newtown Savings Bank and the city of Danbury are continuing.

Finance Committee Report

April meeting will be rescheduled.

Chairman's Comments/Reports

No report

Old business

Cell tower

Several companies who did a site visit have replied to the attorney. A cell tower committee meeting will be held.

New business

a. Glen Nanavaty audit

The 2014 season had difficulties but overall was viewed as a positive season. Operations yielded a positive cash flow which allowed the authority to meet its debt service obligations.

b. Sod farm

Mr. Priola made a motion to move forward with a sod farm, not to exceed \$10,000, pending Mr. Dorsch getting approval for deferring sand payment until September at the earliest. **Motion passed unanimously.**

c. Discussion of amending budget and action if necessary

Mr. Totten made a motion to have the Superintendent and Golf Pro present a plan to decrease the 2015 approved expense budget by 8% by the June Authority meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Session

none

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM

Jean T. DaSilva

Recording secretary